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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY China/USSR

DATE DISTR. 11 JAN 52

SUBJECT 1. Construction of Railroad from the
USSR to Sinkiang Province
2. Railroad Construction, Northwest China

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. the Soviets had started to construct a new railroad track
into Sinkiang Province to connect that area with the Trans-Siberian Railway.
Forced labor was being used, and the link-up was to be made at a point
where the line most nearly approaches the Sinkiang border.¹

2. Two Chinese Communist army railway engineering groups, assisted by Soviet
advisers, were making energetic efforts to connect Lanchou (103-41, 36-03)
with the Lunghai Railway

 These groups were working separately in a westerly direction
towards Lanchou from the towns of T'ien-shui (105-28, 24-36) and Paochi
(106-58, 34-16). tunneling difficulties had
been overcome and a certain amount of track had been laid. The Chinese
Communists also intend to construct a line to the south, linking T'ien-shui
and Chungking.²

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1. Comment.

 the connection with the Soviet railroad was to be made at Ilisk.
An alternative connection at Sergiopcl was reported

Field Comment. The Chinese Communists are fully alive to the strategic
importance of railroads to their defense and military operations. There
is much evidence that their efforts to develop their railroad communi-
cations are meeting with rapid and unprecedented success. There appears
to be no shortage of materials for railroad construction, and, despite
heavy military traffic, there has been no slackening in the efficient
management and maintenance of rail communications in North China. It is
probable that these achievements are in part due to Soviet technical
assistance and advice.

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